Application No.: 10/084,143 Docket No. 87335.3461



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application of David ENGEL

11/Amil+ C E-2-01

Serial No. 10/084,183

Group Art Unit: 3679

Filed: February 28, 2002

Examiner: K. Thompson

For: RETAINING RING APPARATUS AND METHOD

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
2011 South Clark Place
Customer Window, Mail Stop RCE
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed September 12, 2003, having a three-month shortened statutory period of response set to expire December 12, 2003. The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

01/16/2004 EFLORES 00000040 10084143

03 FC:1201 04 FC:1202 86.00 OP 18.00 OP JAN 2 1 2004 GROUP 3600